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SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT

COUNTRY Poland

DATE DISTR. 30 Sept 53

SUBJECT Individual Issue of Uniforms and  
Equipment in Polish Army

NO. OF PAGES 16

PLACE  
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS. 4  
(LISTED BELOW)DATE  
ACQUIRED BY SOURCESUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

DATE OF INFORMATION

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

in the near future--1953 or possibly 1954--officers would be issued a special dress uniform. The uniform was described as follows:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
Dress Cap	Gabardine	Light green with black leather visor, round crown, red hat band, and red piping around edge of crown; metal insignie of an uncrowned eagle attached to hat band above visor.
Blouse	Gabardine	Light green with roll collar; four patch pockets; single breast-ed; four dark metal buttons.
Trousers	Worsted	Blue with red stripe, three to four centimeters wide along outer seam of pant-leg; ankle length, no cuffs.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
Shirt	Broadcloth	Green with attached collar.
Tie	Wool	Dark green.

Officers and career NCO's wore gabardine uniforms described below for parades and ceremonies [redacted] Conscripted enlisted personnel wore the service uniform for parades, inspections, dress, and field training. [All data [redacted] concerning uniforms worn by officer candidates at the Inf. OCS #1 in Wroclaw are given in Encls. A, B, and C. See Encl. D for sketch of a white reconnaissance uniform worn in snow-covered areas.] 25X1

2. The following clothing was issued gratuitously to officers and career NCO's. 25X1

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
1	Overcoat	Wool	Dark green with rolled collar, calf length; one row of silver or black metal buttons; two side pockets with buttons; red stripe approximately three millimeters sewn near cuff of both sleeves; issued for three years' wear; service and dress. [See Encl. A.]
1	Blouse	Wool	Dark green with roll collar; four patch pockets; one row of four silver or black metal buttons; winter service; issued for two years.
1	Blouse	Twill	Dark green with stand-up collar; four patch pockets; one row of six silver or black metal buttons; summer service; issued for one year.
1	Blouse	Officers - Gabardine NCO's - Wool	Light green with roll collar; four patch pockets; one row of four silver or black metal buttons; service and dress wear; issued for three years.
1 pr.	Breeches	Twill	Dark green with side and back pockets; laced near cuff, worn with boots; summer service; issued for one year.
1 pr.	Breeches	Wool	Dark green with side and back pockets; laced near cuff, worn with boots; winter service; issued for two years.
1 pr.	Trousers	Officers - Gabardine NCO's - Wool	Light green with side and back pockets; red stripe approximately three millimeters along seam; dress wear; issued for three years.

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<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
1 pr.	Trousers	Wool	Dark green with side and back pockets; red stripe approximately three millimeters along seam; winter service; issued for two years.
1 pr.	Trousers	Twill	Dark green with side and back pockets; red stripe approximately three millimeters along seam; summer service; issued for one year.
5	Shirts	Cotton	Olive green; issued for one year.
3	Ties	Wool	Dark green; issued for six months.

## 3. Conscripted EM were issued the following:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
1	Overcoat	Wool	Dark green with rolled collar; calf length; two side pockets with buttons; one row of six zinc-colored metal buttons; winter service.
1	Blouse	Coarse Wool	Green with stand-up collar; four patch pockets; one row of six zinc-colored metal buttons; winter dress and service wear; exchanged for twill blouse in April.
2	Blouses	Twill	Green with stand-up collar; one row of six zinc-colored buttons; four patch pockets; exchanged for wool blouse in September; summer service and dress wear.
1 pr.	Trousers	Coarse wool	Green with side pockets and one back pocket; winter service and dress wear; exchanged for twill trousers in April.
2 pr.	Trousers	Twill	Green with side pockets; summer service and dress wear; exchanged for wool trousers in September.

4. Helmets were not issued to any military personnel. [redacted] 25X1  
helmets were stored in the regimental depot and could be issued if required [redacted] 25X1

## a. Officers and Career NCO's were issued the following headgear:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
1	Service cap	Gabardine	Dark green with black leather visor; round top; black, silver, or gold-colored metal eagle emblem; service and dress wear; issued for three years.

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<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
1	Garrison cap	Twill	Green; summer service; issued for one year.
1	Field cap	Gabardine	Green with cloth visor; winter service; issued for two years.

## b. Conscripted EM:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
1	Service cap	Wool	Green with black leather visor; summer and winter dress and service wear.
1	Garrison cap	Twill	Green; summer service.
1	Field cap	Wool	Green with cloth visor; winter service.

## 5. Footwear consisted of the following:

## a. Officers and Career NCO's:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
1 pr.	Shoes	Finished leather	Black with laces; ankle-height; winter and summer service; issued for three years.
1 pr.	Boots	Finished leather	Black, calf-height; worn with breeches; winter and summer service; issued for two years.
2 pr.	Leggings	Summer -Twill Winter -Wool	Dark green; approximately 10 x 25 cm; worn with full-length trousers; buttoned on the outside of ankle; two vertical rows of buttons; three buttons per row; twill for summer service and wool for winter service; issued for two years to NCO's only.

## b. Conscripted EM:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
1 pr.	Shoes, service	Unfinished leather	Black with laces, ankle-height; winter and summer service and dress.
3 pr.	Leggings	Summer - twill Winter - wool	Dark green, approximately 10 x 25 cm; wrapped around ankles over cuffs; two vertical rows of buttons, three buttons per row; one pair wool issued for winter service, and exchanged for two pair twill for summer.

## 6. Accessories included the following:

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## a. Officers and Career NCO's:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
1	Belt	Finished leather	Sam Browne type; tan; dress and service wear, optional after duty hours; issued for seven years to officers only; NCO's were issued a belt without a shoulder strap.
1 pr.	Gloves	Cotton	Green; winter service; issued for one year.
3 pr.	Socks	Cotton	Green, calf-height; issued for six months; very poor quality; usually discarded after one week.
2 pr.	Drawers	Cotton	White; ankle-length; winter service; issued for one year.
2 pr.	Drawers	Cotton	White; knee-length; summer service; issued for six months.
1	Undershirt	Cotton	Winter and summer service; also used during PT; usually purchased by individual.
2	Towels	Cotton	White; issued for six months.
2 pr.	Footwraps	Flannel	White; 25 x 50 cm.; worn in lieu of socks; issued for six months.
1	Belt, trouser	Leather	Tan with yellow or silver-colored metal buckle; issued for seven years.

## b. Conscripted EM:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
2 pr.	Footwraps	Flannel	White; 25 x 50 cm.; worn in lieu of socks; issued for length of service.
3	Collars	Cotton	Green; worn under blouse to simulate shirt; winter and summer service.
3	Collars	Cotton	White; for dress wear.
3	Handkerchiefs	Cotton	White; issued for length of service.
3 pr.	Drawers	Summer-cotton Winter-wool	White; ankle-length.
2	Towels	Cotton	White; issued for length of service.

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<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
1 pr.	Gloves	Flannel	Green, wrist-length; winter service; issued for length of service.
1	Toothbrush		
1	Shoe brush		
1	Clothes brush		
1	Shoe dauber		

## 7. Individual equipment consisted of the following:

## a. Officers and Career NCO's:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
1	Map case	Leather	Tan, approximately 25 x 30 cm.; worn on left hip; held by narrow leather strap.
1	Report case	Web cloth	Tan, approximately 25 x 30 cm.; contained regulations and orders; worn on belt at left side; issued to officers only.
1	Compass	Bakelite	Magnetic type; Soviet-made.
1	Binoculars	Metal	Soviet-made.
1	Gas mask	Unknown	Soviet Shlem M-1.
1	Poncho	Waterproof cloth	Green; Polish-made.
1	Entrenching shovel	Metal, wooden handle	Soviet-made; approximately one half meter overall length; shovel approximately 15 x 25 cm.; encased in green cloth cover, hung on belt.
1	Suitcase	Cardboard, with protective metal corners	Black or brown, approximately 100 cm. long x 35 cm. wide x 60 cm. high; used by officers only for clothing during alarms or field exercises.
1	Pistol		Similar to the Tokarev 7.62-mm. semi-automatic, model TT 1933; made in Radom, Poland, in 1952; weighed two pounds; eight-round magazine; considered extremely accurate; I heard of no malfunctions.
1	Pistol holster	Leather	Tan; Soviet-made; two loops on back for belt; could also be hooked to belt.
1	Pistol brush		

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## b. Conscripted EM:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
1	Grenade pouch	Web cloth	Green, approximately 15 x 20 cm.; contained six grenades; attached to belt on left side.
1	Ammunition pouch	Leather	Tan, approximately 6 x 10 cm.; consisted of three pouches sewn to leather strap; capacity 15-20 rounds, 7.62 mm.
1	Gas mask		Shlem M-1, Soviet-made.
1	Knapsack	Web cloth	Green; fastened to belt in front and back by metal rings at end of straps.
1	Mess kit	Aluminum	Polish-made; oval shape, approximately 15 cm. high; cover lid and metal handle.
1	Spoon	Aluminum	Polish-made.
1	Cup	Aluminum	Polish-made, similar to German World War II stock, one-half liter capacity.
1	First-aid packet		Paper wrapped, carried inside blouse; contained bandages and adhesive tape.
1	Individual anti-gas packet		Skin ointment for gas burns.
1	Entrenching shovel	Metal with wooden handle	Similar to officers issue. /See 7 a above./
1 set	Cleaning equipment for weapons		Consisted of bore brush, rifle rod, dauber, two small bottles containing oil and bore cleaner, and disassembly tool.
1	Poncho	Waterproof cloth	Dark green; Soviet-made.
2	Blankets	Wool	Green or gray; Soviet-made.
2	Sheets	Linen	White.
1	Pillow case	Linen	White.
1	Mattress cover	Cloth	Straw-filled; used as mattress.
1	Pistol, carbine or SMG		Soviet 7.62-mm. TT Tokarev M-33, 7.62-mm. carbine, or 7.62-mm. PPS SMG M-43.

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8. Color of uniforms for various branches of service and for the Military Border Guard (Wojsko Ochrony Pogranicza -- WOP) were as follows:

<u>Branch</u>	<u>Overcoat, Blouse, and Trousers</u>	<u>Outside Trousers Seam</u>	<u>Hat Band</u>	<u>Hat Crown Piping</u>	<u>Shoulder Loops</u>	<u>Leggings</u>	<u>Shoes</u>
Inf.	Green OD	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green	Black
Arty.	Green OD	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green	Black
Sig.	Green OD	Red	Red	Red	Green	None	Black (boots)
Combat Engr.	Green OD	Red	Red	Red	Green	None	Black (boots)
Armd.	Blue-gray	Blue-gray	Black	Black	Blue-gray	Blue-gray	Black
KOSCIU-SZKO Regt.	Green OD	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Black
WOP	Green OD	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Black

9. Officers and EM initially received what was considered a complete issue of clothing and equipment. EM received used clothing and shoes. New clothing was available for issue, but I believe supply economy was being stressed. EM clothing was not issued for the length of service specified, but was exchanged for summer or winter when appropriate. Exchange of unserviceable clothing was constantly done. Each man was responsible for his own clothing, and misuse resulted in disciplinary action. Initial issue seldom fit and exchanges among individuals frequently occurred.

10. Clothing sizes were indicated in the following manner:

<u>Numbers</u>	<u>Clothing Item</u>	<u>Height and Weight</u>
146-65	Blouse, Trousers	165-170 cm., tall, medium weight.
146-75	Blouse, Trousers	170-175 cm., tall, medium weight.
148-65	Blouse, Trousers	175-180 cm., tall, thin.
148-75-47 to 151	Blouse, Trousers	175-185 cm., tall, medium weight.
152-48 to 154	Blouse, Trousers	Tall and heavy.

11. There were no changes in officers' rank insignia as indicated on the shoulder loops as far as I know. Branch of service was indicated by the color of piping on cap crown, color of cap band, piping on overcoat, trousers and shoulder loops. Buttons on officers' uniforms were dark metal with an uncrowned eagle imprinted on the face of the button: they were usually changed by individual to silver or gold color.

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11. Exchange of winter uniforms for summer uniforms occurred in April and exchange of summer for winter uniforms occurred in September, in accordance with regulations issued by the Ministry of National Defense.
12. Demobilized officers and career NCO's retained their uniform clothing, but all items of clothing and equipment issued to conscripted EM were surrendered upon discharge. EM received civilian clothing from home prior to discharge. Items of army clothing were worn by civilians.

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Enclosures:

- A. Polish Army Officer's Overcoat
- B. Polish Army Officer Candidate Uniforms
- C. Polish Army Officer Candidate Insignia and Emblems
- D. Winter Reconnaissance Uniform

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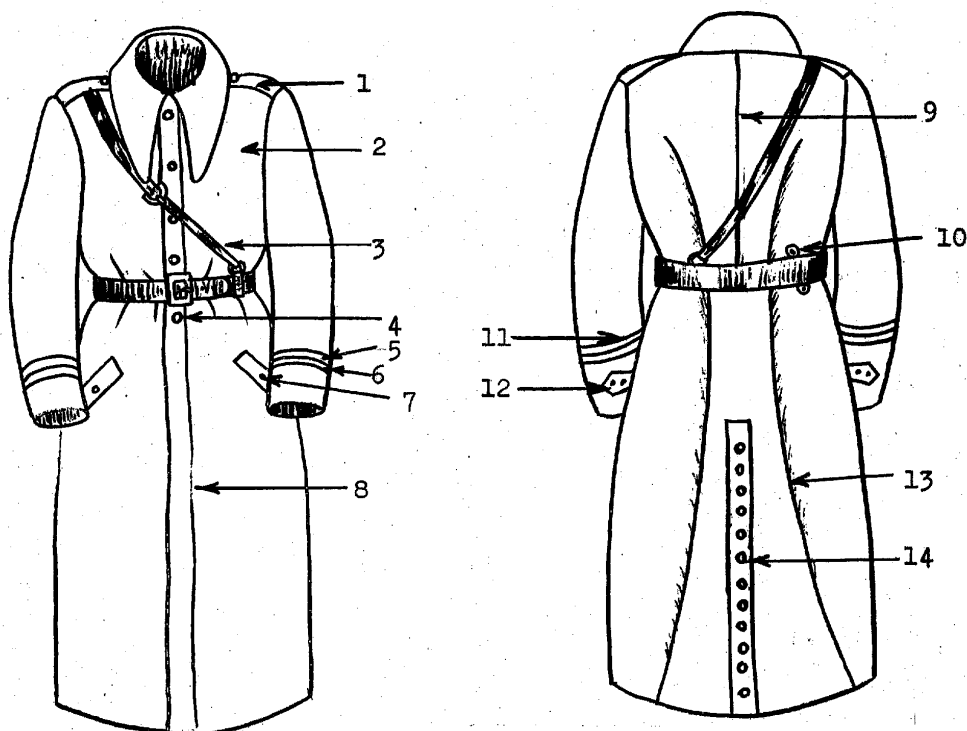
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## Enclosure A

Polish Army Officer's Overcoat

Note: [redacted] all officers were issued this overcoat in  
 Sep 1952. [redacted]

Legend

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Green shoulder loop, rank indicated.                              | 8. Seam.  |
| 2. Green material.   | 9. Pleat; opened with arm movement.                 |
| 3. Belt, leather, Sam Browne. Wine or tan.                           | 10. Metal rings for canteen.                        |
| 4. Six dark metal buttons. Crownless eagle insignie.                 | 11. Sleeve pocket.                                  |
| 5. Red infantry braid, approx 1 1/2 mm wide. Color indicated branch. | 12. Adjustable strap with two buttons.              |
| 6. Sleeve seam.  | 13. Pleats.   |
| 7. Two side pockets with dark metal buttons.                         | 14. Slit with 12 metal buttons. Usually unbuttoned. |

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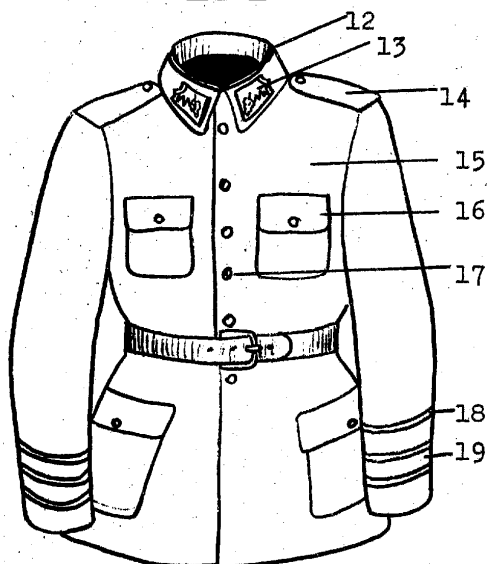
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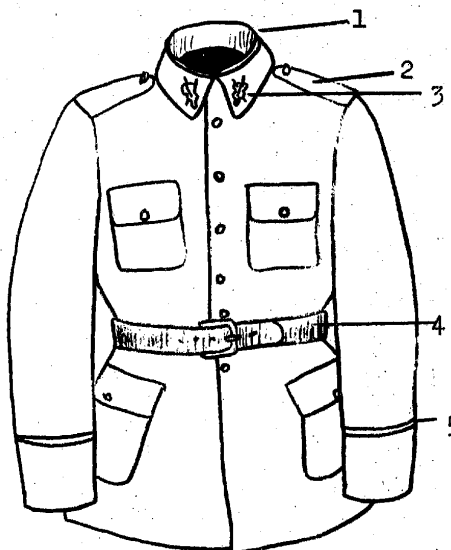
Enclosure B

Polish Army Officer Candidate Uniforms

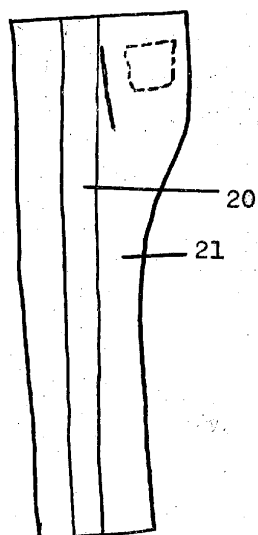
Dress



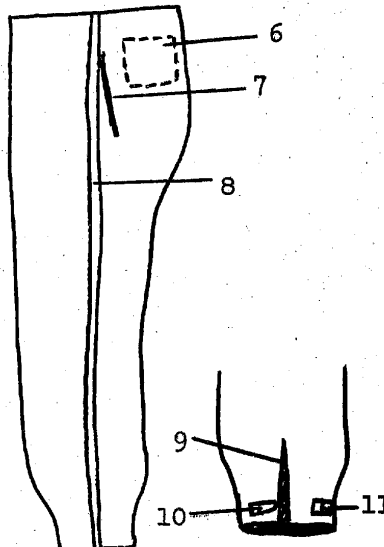
Service



Dress



Service



Outside

Inside

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## Enclosure B (Cont'd)

Polish Army Officer Candidate Uniform

Note: Uniform was issued to [redacted] candidates attending the Inf. OCS #1 at WROCLAW (UTM-33UXS4364) upon taking the oath of service. All uniforms were returned to QM upon completion of school. Summer service uniform was of twill material, winter service of wool. Dress uniform was made of wool.

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Legend

1. Green collar. Simulated shirt.
2. Green shoulder loop with metal school shoulder insigne attached. See Encl C.
3. Metal oak leaf and dagger insignia. Nickel or gold-colored. Oak leaves signified perseverance and dagger, valour.
4. Leather belt, black or tan with metal buckle. Approx. 4 cm. wide.
5. Red stripe, approx  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm. wide.
6. One back pocket on right side.
7. Two side pockets.
8. Red stripe approx  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm. wide.
9. Slit, inside both trouser legs. Leggings always worn.
10. Cloth adjustment strap.
11. Black metal buckle.
12. White collar. Simulated shirt.
13. Collar Flash. See Encl. C.
14. Red shoulder loops. Rank and school insigne always shown. See Encl. C.
15. Green wool material.
16. Four patch pockets with black metal buttons. Uncrowned eagle.
17. Six zinc, silver, or gold-colored metal buttons. Uncrowned eagle.
18. Three silver stripes, approx  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cm. wide. See Encl. C.
19. Spacing between stripes approx  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cm.
20. Red stripe approx 4 cm. wide.
21. Blue wool trousers.

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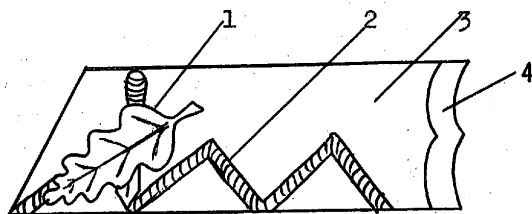
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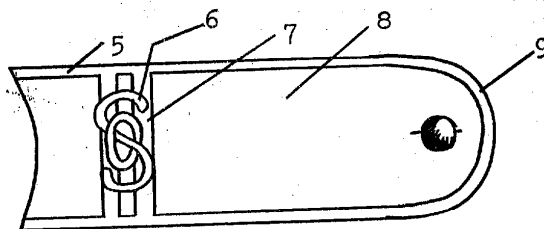
Enclosure C

Polish Army Officer Candidate Insignia and Emblems

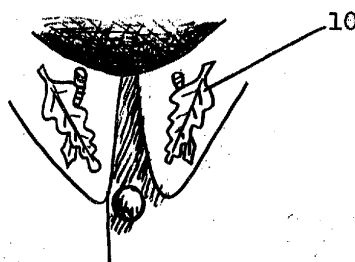
Collar Flash



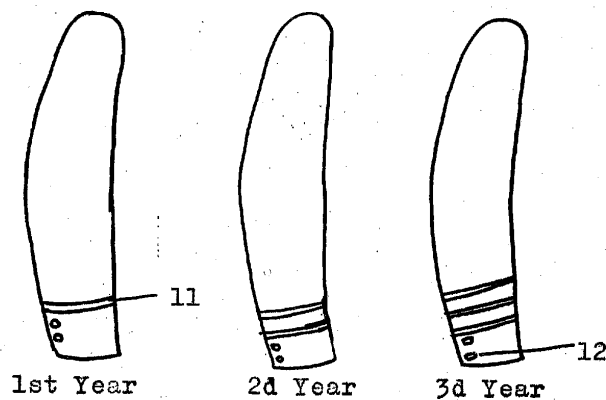
Shoulder Loop with Metal School Insignia



Collar Emblems



Blouse Sleeves



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## Enclosure C (Cont'd)

Polish Army Officer Candidate Insigne and EmblemsLegend

## Collar Flash

1. Oak leaf and dagger metal insignie. Attached with two pins on reverse side.
2. Silver stripe, approx 1 cm.wide.
3. Red cloth flash.
4. Blue edge, approx 3 mm.wide.

## Shoulder Loop with Metal Insignie

5. Silver edge, approx 1 mm.wide.
6. Metal OS (Officers School) insignie. Nickel colored, attached with two pins. Cut-out design. Approx, 2.5 cm in diameter.
7. Two white stripes - indicated rank of corporal.
8. Red Cloth.
9. Zinc-colored button and button hole.

## Collar Emblems

10. Position of insignia on collar.

## Blouse Sleeves

11. One silver stripe, indicated first year at school.
12. Two metal buttons, zinc or silver-colored.

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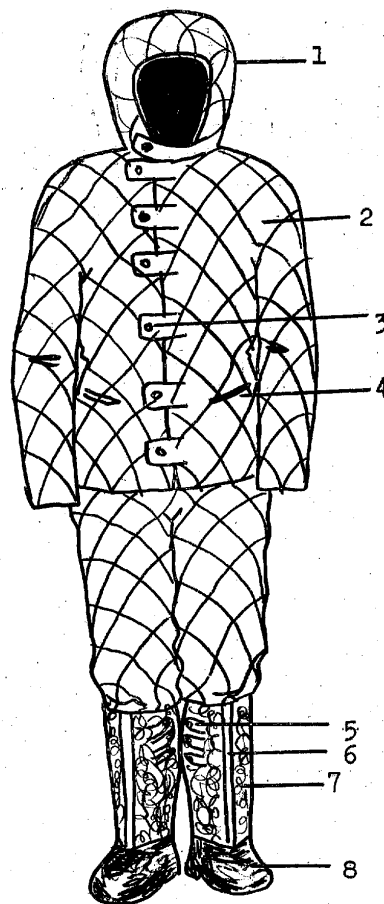
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Enclosure D  
Winter Reconnaissance Uniform



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Enclosure D (Cont'd)

Winter Reconnaissance UniformNote:

[redacted] white-quilted loose-fitting uniform at the Inf. OCS #1 at WROCLAW (UTM-33UXS4364). Uniform was worn by a reconnaissance platoon which was subordinate to the IV Mil. Dist. Uniform was used in snow-covered terrain. Platoon was also equipped with skis. Further details unknown.

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Legend

1. Hood. Covered head and part of forehead.
2. Quilted flannel material.
3. Seven buttons, believed to be covered with brown leather.
4. Two side pockets for ammo.
5. Three adjusting straps.
6. Black leather strap approx 2½ cm. wide. Front and rear.
7. White felt.
8. Black leather shoe.
9. Three-fingered gloves, leather and fur-line. Black, forearm length.

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